

Tell Me Behind By Back

Grade Level	Fifth
Minimum Time Required	30 Minutes
Materials/Resources	A large piece of newsprint or colored construction paper for each student, Washable marker, Two pieces of masking tape
Subject Area(s)	Guidance

Project Description:

1. Give each student:
 - a) A large piece of newsprint or colored construction paper
 - b) A marker (washable)
 - c) Two pieces of masking tape
2. Have each student write the following on his/her paper: "I like (child's own name) because..."
3. Each student then attaches the paper to their own back (with the masking tape attached to shoulders – hangs on back like cape).
4. Discuss with the students the importance of sharing positive feelings and thoughts with others (brief interaction to set the tone and purpose of this activity). STRESS the importance of writing only positive statements. Students are not to read the comments from anyone else's back aloud, nor talk to each other generally, nor sign names or initials to the written comments.
5. Students circulate and write a thought or feeling (POSITIVE) about the student whose cape he/she is writing on. These can be related to personal appearance, behaviors, academic accomplishments, social skills, athletic abilities, etc., etc., etc.
6. Each student reads through own comments on cape. Allow students to share statements (can be done in a variety of ways – use imagination!)
7. Discuss the following with the students:
 - a) How did it feel when others were writing on your paper? Thoughts?
 - b) How did you feel about sharing a comment?
 - c) How did it feel to read the things people wrote about you?
 - d) Was it easy for you to think of things to write about others? Why/why not?
 - e) Do we often say these (positive) to each other? Why/Why not?

Career Development Standard	Knowledge of the importance of self concept.
Career Development Indicator	Describe characteristics about self as seen by self and others.
Delivery Level	Review
Academic Standards	
Language Arts	4.2.b Use appropriate conventions of language in personal communication.
Employability/SCANS Skills	Personal Qualities Basic Skills
Assessment/Rubric	Students will be assessed based on class participation.